may not be possible to be done during the year. What I mean to say is, such works are very very few. I said there may be exceptional circumstances which cause that delay. There is no necessity to postpone.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—The difficulty is this. Since it is budgetted for 1104, no attempt will be made to budget it in 1105. When it is not done in 1104, it follows that it will not be done in 1105 also.

President.—As far as possible, the works budgetted in the previous year must be scrutinised, and such of the works, as are not worked out, must be carried to this year's budget also. I have been insisting upon that rule, and I think it is being followed. Works already budgetted for and not done for certain reasons should always be carried to the next year, because we have determined that the works are of a useful nature and must be kept there. If it is not done in a particular year, the attempt must be to carry them to the next year. I have been insisting upon it, and I think the Public Works Department is following it.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—But it is not done, that is all.

Control of motor traffic.

257. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government kindly state:—

(a) whether they have decided to appoint a special staff under the Commissioner of Police to control the motor traffic which is every day increasing in the State;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, what is the strength of the staff and the pay of each member of the staff;

(c) whether they have decided to appoint a special Inspector or Officer to grant brake certificates to motor vehicles; if so, with what pay and with what qualification;

(d) how many motor accidents have been reported up-to-date in the year 1104; in the year 1103; and in the year 1102?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(a), (b) and (c). The question is under the consideration of the Government.

(d) 1104 .. 43. (Of these 18 were car accidents.)
1103 .. 35.
1102 .. 31.

Illicit transport of timber.

258. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—With the information contained in file Dis. 731/D/1101, referred to in question No. 646 of the Legislative Session of 1104, will the Government be pleased to state:—

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(1) whether a case of illicit transport of timber was detected by the Parakadavu Tanahdar in 1101 and what was the report of the Divisional Forest Officer thereon ;

(2) who brought down these logs from the Palappilli Plantations ;

(3) was it alleged that verbal sanction of the Conservator of Forests was obtained for the same and had the Conservator of Forests given the same ; if so, under which rule was oral sanction given ;

(4) were the logs given subsequently to the Plantation Ranger himself; if so, at what rate ;

(5) was the Plantation Ranger Mr. C. Govinda Menon constructing his house at Koodapuzha at the time the timber was brought down ;

(6) on the receipt of the information of the seizure of timber, did the Forest Guard under the Plantation Ranger produce the passes before the Southern Divisional Forest Officer in Palappilli camp the next day, bearing the date on which the case was detected ;

(7) why it is the Government denied the facts of this case in the answers to question No. 162 of the Legislative Session of 1103 and questions 45, 286, 287 and 288 of the Legislative Session of 1104?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—(1) (a) No.

(b) Government do not consider it in the interests of the service to place the report on the Table.

(2) Manjali Chakkappan.

(3) a. Yes.

b. Government have no information.

c. No reply is necessary in view of the answer to (b) above.

(4) Yes. At Rs. 9 a candy.

(5) This does not come under any field of any useful enquiry by the Government.

(6) Yes.

(7) The questions under reference were all regarding teak logs but the produce transported was either saplings or poles.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know the name of the officer who detected this affair at Parakkadavu?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—The Parakkadavu tanahdar.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—What was the measurement of the saplings?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—I do not remember the measurement.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—How many candies were sold to this Plantation Ranger?

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Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—The quantity is not available.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—It is stated that the logs were given at Rs. 9 per candy. I want to know how much was sold to this Ranger.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Only one topling at this rate.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Is it topling that was sold or sapling?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Saplings.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—(3). Who was the Conservator of Forests from whom it was alleged there was verbal sanction for the tansport?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Mr. K. Govinda Menon.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Is Mr. Govinda Menon in any way related to this Plantation Ranger?

President.—I have heard there is some relationship between the two. If you know what it is, you may say it, if you do not know exactly what it is, say that you do not know.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Does *the Forest Coae* allow the Conservator to give verbal sanction to transport timber?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—*The Coae* does not allow.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Why was it done in this case?

Mr. K. Ramun ni Menon.—It is not sure whether he gave verbal sanction.

President.—Is not verbal sanction immediately followed by written sanction? You cannot always follow the rule. Verbal sanction is followed by written sanction. That remedies the defect.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Is there any other case in the Forest Department where verbal sanction was given?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—I cannot remember.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Not in your experience?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—No.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Did the Government make inquiries when this question reached them whether the Conservator had given a verbal sanction? Did the Conservator of Forests give the same?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—No inquiry was made.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—So this answer was given without making the inquiry?

President.—That is a comment on the answer.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Is there a chit in that file to the present Conservator of Forests that the 'dirty linen should be washed' by him. I use the very expression used in that

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chit. Mr.Ramunni Menon was acting as Conservator of Forests. Was there a request from the permanent incumbent that the whole thing may be closed before he enters duties?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—I can't remember. I do not think there was any chit.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja —From where was this sapling cuts?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—From the Palappilli Plantation.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was it during the thinning process?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—It was the result of thinning.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—There were 5 questions previously about this matter, and the Government was evading the answer on the ground that the question related to logs. Question No.162 Legislative Session of 1103 and four other questions in 1104. Now, in part 4), 'were logs given subsequently to the Plantation Ranger himself, if so, at what rate', the answer is 'yes'. Have these saplings been converted into logs?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—I do not understand.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I shall read the previous question :—

"Question No 162.—Whether Mr. T. Narayana Menon, Divisional Forest Officer, accompanied by Forester, Mr. K. Achyuta Menon, visited the Vilikkamukku Estate for stamping logs, etc., in Chingam 1101; (b) whether on his return he discovered unstamped teak logs mixed with stamped ones at Parakkadavu; (c) who was the owner of the stamped logs; (d) was any statement recorded about the unstamped logs, if so, what is it; (e) was any explanation taken from the Plantation Ranger in the matter; if so, what is it; (f) what are the remarks offered on the explanation by the Divisional Officer; (g) how was this matter closed?"

The technical objection was the word used was 'logs'. The same thing was repeated by me and by Mr. Kochunni Menon and Mr. C. J. Mathew. Now it is accepted that these can be called logs. So, why was the answer evaded on the previous occasions?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—The produce is one and the same thing.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—(5) The question is:—'was the Plantation Ranger, Mr. C. Govinda Menon, constructing his house at Koodapuz a at the time the timber was brought down', and the answer is: 'this does not come under any field of any useful inquiry by the Government'. Is it not useful for the Government to know whether any illicit timber was used by a subordinate in the construction of his house?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Yes. It is the duty of the Government to see that illicit timber is not utilised by any one.

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Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Were these saplings or logs or toplings subsequently sold at public auction?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—No. It was given to the Ranger.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—It was given to the very same person who was responsible for the whole thing?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Yes.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Is not auction generally conducted when such logs are detected?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—But it was not an illicit transport, so it was given to him.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—How is it that it is not illicit? Were the logs stamped when they were detected?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—The logs had not been stamped, but they were stamped subsequently.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—That is, when this was detected; on the very same day, the passes were prepared and they were produced before the Southern Divisional Forest Officer before stamping.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Before stamping the saplings were transported to Parakkadavu, and there was no offence in transporting the saplings to Parakkadavu.

259. Mr. A. B. Salem.—Will the Government be pleased to state (1) whether there was any case of illicit transport of logs on which the Parakadavu Tanahdar had reported to the Sub-divisional Forest Officer in the year 1101;

(2) will the Government be further pleased to call for and place on the Table of the House the file of the Southern Divisional Office, Dis. No. 731/01.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—(1) No.

(2) The Member is referred to the answer to question No. 646 of the Legislative Session of Meenam 1104.

Council resolution to allow people to remove without passes head-loads of timber, etc.

260. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state what action they have taken regarding the resolution passed by the Council to allow people to remove head-loads of bamboos, fuel, &c., from the forests without permits?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—A copy of the Diwan's Proceedings R. O. C.3861/1104, dated 26th July 1929, is appended. (*Appendix III.*)

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The heading is 'head-loads of *timber*'. It is not timber. Timber is not generally removed. It is only fuel.

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